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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/521,760	02/03/2006	Driss Stitou	032013-113	4201
23911 7590 07/08/2008 CROWELL & MORING LLP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP P.O. BOX 14300 WASHINGTON, DC 20044-4300				
EXAMINER				
ALI, MOHAMMAD M				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3744				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/08/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/521,760

Applicant(s)

STITOU ET AL.

Examiner

MOHAMMAD M. ALI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 April 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6-8 and 10-13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 9 recites the limitation "the ice tray" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Goetz Vincent (5,964,097). Goetz, Vincent discloses a method of refrigeration using a thermochemical system comprises three reversible phenomena involving the gas G in three chambers (18 and or16), (12) and (10), the respective equilibrium temperatures TE(18), TE(10) and TE(12) at a given pressure being such that TE(18 and or16) state in which the three chambers are at ambient temperature and at the same pressure in a first step, the chamber (12) is isolated and the chambers (18) and (10) are brought into communication (The valves 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and pipes 32 and 34 connection system are so arrange the system can be places at any desires connection position) in order to carry out the exothermic synthesis in (10), the heat produced being absorbed by the chamber (12); in a second step, the chamber (10) is isolated and the

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chambers (18 and or 16) and (12) are brought into communication in order to carry out the exothermic synthesis in (12), the heat produced being absorbed by the chamber (12); and in a third step, the three chambers are brought into communication and thermal energy is supplied to the chamber (12) by heater (36) in order to carry out the exothermic decomposition steps in (10) and in (12), for the purpose of regenerating the installation, which is then left to return to the ambient temperature. See Fig. 1-5, abstract and , column 2, line 58 to column 4, line 55.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goetz, Vincent. Goetz, Vincent discloses the invention substantially as claimed as stated above stated steps such as the adsorption of gas on solid falls within the realm of common knowledge as obvious mechanical expedient and this illustrated by Goets, Vincent which teach the use of the reactors 10, 12 in various ways by desired opening closing the valves 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30. Therefore, Goetz, Vincent obviously read the above claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6—8, 10-13 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 04/18/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Applicant argued that Goetz discloses a process comprises running a first reactor, by making its salt react with the gas between the pressure of the enclosure designed to receive the gas and the pressure of the enclosure designed to deliver the gas and simultaneously, running the second reactor, -----. The Examiner disagrees. However, Goetz clearly states that first and second reactors are run simultaneously. (col. 2, lines 35-42). The Examiner disagrees. As disclosed in the previous international publication of Goetz WO 97/40328 does not have any col. With lines 35-42 and therefore, the above arguments are not related to the claimed rejection. However for better and clear understanding the rejections have been reviewed by using corresponding US Patent of Goetz et al., as a new ground of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad M. Ali whose telephone number is 571-272-4806. The examiner can normally be reached on maxiflex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl J. Tyler can be reached on 571-272-4808. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mohammad M Ali/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3744